

1ST ARMORED DIVISION
AMERICA'S TANK DIVISION

The Old Ironsides Report

Thursday, November 06, 2003

Generator shop opens for business in Al Khadrah neighborhood of Baghdad, thanks to funding from U.S. and Japanese governments



Maj. Paul Fellingner, 1st Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, which is part of the 82nd Airborne Division, currently attached to Task Force 1st Armored Division, and Dr. Musadak, the chief adviser to the Coalition Military Industrial Office, cut a red ribbon at the grand opening of a privately-owned generator shop in Baghdad. The U.S. and Japanese governments provided funds to start the small business, which will provide good jobs as well as services that will benefit the community.

By Capt. John G. Gibson
1st Battalion, 4th Air Defense Artillery, 1st Armored Division

BAGHDAD, Iraq – On a warm Friday morning in southwestern Baghdad, Iraqi businessmen, workers and coalition forces gathered to celebrate the hope of a new beginning. They gathered to see the dreams of new beginnings manifested by the opening the Al Khark Generator Shop in a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Oct. 24 in the Al Khadrah neighborhood of Baghdad.

The ceremony began with Maj. Paul Fellingner, 1st Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, which is part of the 82nd Airborne Division, and Dr. Musadak, the chief adviser to the Coalition Military Industrial Office, cutting a red ribbon at the grand opening of a privately-owned generator shop in Baghdad.

The group then toured each section of the Al Khark Generator Shop, including maintenance, electronics, mechanics, and refurbishing. Musadak, Fellingner, and the shop owner then made short speeches to celebrate the opening.

"The relationship between the coalition and the Iraqi people gives Iraq a better future, economy, and opportunity," said Musadak, who oversaw the project.

He also thanked coalition forces for providing, the "stability, security, and safety that made this project possible."

The ceremony ended with cutting another ribbon to officially open the sales and display room of the Al Khark Generator Shop.

The Al Khark project started work on Sept. 1 with funding from both the U.S. and Japanese governments.

The privately-owned shop will not only sell generators, but it will also repair and restore broken generators. Coalition forces hope this will significantly improve the availability of power to the citizens of Al Khadrah.

The men working in the Al Khark Generator Shop finished construction on the structure but now begin rebuilding of normalcy of life. Their jobs will provide a much-needed service for the community and also provide steady employment.

The Red Falcon battalion is currently attached to the 1st Armored Division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team in support of Task Force 1st Armored Division for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

43,000 alerted for duty in Iraq or Kuwait

By Eric Schmitt and Tom Shanker
The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5 — The Pentagon began alerting 43,000 Reserve and National Guard troops late Wednesday for the possibility of yearlong duty in Iraq or Kuwait as part of a force-rotation plan that would reduce the overall American military presence in Iraq by next spring, senior Pentagon officials said.

The alert warnings and deployment orders approved by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld on Wednesday reflected concern by Pentagon officials and the administration over stresses that large mobilizations have placed on reservists and their families. These, in turn, have prompted complaints in Congress.

The orders were drafted to give the troops maximum warning about their possible duty and to ensure that the bulk of them had not already been called up since Sept. 11, 2001, senior Pentagon officials said.

Safety Tip **Weapons safety**

All weapons **MUST** be cleared before entering a FOB. This includes BIAP

- Magazines are not to be carried in the weapon while in a secure area without the commander's permission.

- Lock and load at the final checkpoint when leaving a FOB, not in the parking lot.

Chaplain's thought for the day **Had lunch yet?**

David Dr. Harold Urey, Nobel prize winner in Chemistry, was walking along a sidewalk one day when he ran into another professor. They chatted for a few minutes, then, as they parted, Dr. Urey asked the other, "John, which way was I going when I met you?"

"That way," said the other, pointing. "Oh, good. That means I've already had my lunch," muttered the professor as he walked away.

All of us have a tendency to forget things, but what bothers me even more is that we have a tendency to forget God.

Not so much when times are rough (We need Him then!), but when times are good. God knew that might happen. That's why He warned the Israelites before they entered the land of Canaan: "Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God, lest -- when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt." (Deuteronomy 8:11-14a).

Would you forget your head if it wasn't screwed on tight? Just don't forget who your Head is!

Oddly Enough

Hundreds flock to the goat race

DAR ES SALAAM (Reuters) - Hundreds of Tanzanians flocked to the country's annual goat races, a charity event pitting 60 of the beasts in a series of heats before they are slaughtered. Most of the goats end up in the abattoir after the competition to raise money for water and farming projects, but winners get the chance to decide their goat's fate. "I am incredibly happy because my goat won the race," owner Joerg Sonne said Saturday after the second race in the national stadium in the commercial capital Dar-es-Salaam. "We will try to enter this one on another race, or take it home." Roasted goat meat is a popular food in Tanzania, where many people scratch a living as peasant farmers in one of the world's poorest countries.

This Day in History **Nov. 6, 1917**

Bolsheviks revolt in Russia

From HistoryChannel.com

On this day in history, Nov. 6, 1917, Led by Bolshevik party leader Vladimir Lenin, leftist revolutionaries launched a nearly bloodless coup d'état against Russia's ineffectual Provisional Government. The Bolsheviks and their allies occupied government buildings and other strategic locations in the Russian capital of Petrograd (now St. Petersburg) and within two days had formed a new government with Lenin as its head. Bolshevik Russia, later renamed the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), was the world's first Marxist state.

Born Vladimir Ilich Ulyanov in 1870, Lenin was drawn to the revolutionary cause after his brother was executed in 1887 for plotting to assassinate Czar Alexander III. He studied law and took up practice in Petrograd, where he associated with revolutionary Marxist circles.

In 1895, he helped organize Marxist groups in the capital into the "Union for the Struggle for the Liberation of the Working Class," which attempted to enlist workers to the Marxist cause.

In December 1895, Lenin and the other leaders of the Union were arrested. Lenin was jailed for a year and then exiled to Siberia for a term of three years.

Lenin became the virtual dictator of the first Marxist state in the world. His government made peace with Germany, nationalized industry, and distributed land, but beginning in 1918 had to fight a devastating civil war against czarist forces. In 1920, the czarists were defeated, and in 1922 the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) was established.

Upon Lenin's death, in early 1924, his body was embalmed and placed in a mausoleum near the Moscow Kremlin. Petrograd was renamed Leningrad in his honor. After a struggle for succession, fellow revolutionary Joseph Stalin succeeded Lenin as leader of the Soviet Union.